

An Atrix 4G of Your Own

In This Chapter

- ▶ Putting your phone together
 - ▶ Charging the battery
 - ▶ Identifying the phone's pieces and parts
 - ▶ Taking the phone with you
 - ▶ Keeping the phone in one place
-

There's something magical about getting things in a box. Presents come in boxes. Parcels come in boxes. Your new phone comes in a box. Heck, your new phone might even be in a box inside a fancy tote bag from the phone store. Getting something new is thrilling. But getting a new phone can be not only thrilling but also daunting. New technology can intimidate, especially when it's something as powerful as the Motorola Atrix 4G. This chapter helps get you started on your journey to tap all that power.

Initial Atrix 4G Setup

Depending on where you purchased your phone, a lot of the initial setup may have been done for you. Even if you dreamed of opening the box and personally experiencing the thrill of unwrapping and setting up the thing, those people at the phone store may have crushed your dream by manhandling the phone for you. Fine. You can relive your dream by reading this section, whether your phone is already unboxed and ready to go or whether you get to do it all by yourself.



Looking in the box

Several items come in the Atrix 4G box. Take a moment to locate and identify each of these goodies:

- ✓ The Atrix 4G phone
- ✓ Miscellaneous papers and the useless *Quickstart* fold-out
- ✓ The phone's battery (if it's not installed)
- ✓ A micro-USB cable
- ✓ An HDMI cable
- ✓ A power adapter



The Atrix 4G ships with a sheet of plastic over the screen, which tells you where various features are located. You can remove the plastic at this time.

Beyond the items just listed, you might have been given a bonus package of goodies from whoever sold you the phone. If they were classy, you have a handy little tote bag with perhaps the AT&T logo on it. If you look inside the bag, you might find these items:

- ✓ A smart-looking, leatherette belt-clip phone jacket
- ✓ A micro-USB car charger
- ✓ Headphones
- ✓ Even more random pieces of paper

The most important doodad is the phone itself, which might require some assembly before you can use it; refer to the next section for assembly directions.



It's a good idea to keep the instructions and other information that came in the box as long as you own the phone: The phone's box makes an excellent storage place for that stuff — as well as for anything else you don't plan to use right away.

If anything is missing or appears to be damaged, contact Motorola for support at (800) 734-5870 or online by going to www.motorola.com/Support, selecting your country, clicking Mobile Phones, and then clicking Motorola Atrix 4G.

Installing the phone's battery

When your phone comes disassembled inside its box, your first duty as a new Atrix 4G owner is to install the battery. Your second duty is to charge the battery. Installing the battery is easy, and charging it doesn't require a Transylvanian castle during a thunderstorm.

If the nice people who sold you the phone already installed the battery, the phone is ready for charging; see the next section. Otherwise, you can install the battery yourself by following these steps:

- 1. Ensure that the phone is turned off.**

Weird: But it's not necessary to install the battery in a phone that's already been turned on. If your phone is on, proceed with the next section on charging the battery.



- 2. Flip the phone over so that the front (the glassy part) is facing down towards the floor.**

If the headset or any cables are attached, you should disconnect them.

- 3. Place your thumb and forefinger on the center part of the sides of the phone.**

- 4. Insert a plastic card or your thumbnail into the seam at the top or bottom of the phone. Snap the back cover away from the phone and set the cover aside.**

A gentle pull is all that's required to pop off the cover. Feel free to squeeze the phone as you pull upward.

- 5. Orient the battery so that the metallic contacts are in the bottom-right corner as you're looking at the back of the phone.**

The battery is shaped like a giant, square mint cookie. It really is mint, too, though trying to taste the battery is too shocking a thought.

- 6. Insert the bottom edge of the battery first, and then lower the top edge like you're closing the lid on a tiny box.**

See Figure 1-1 for help in positioning and inserting the battery. Its metal contacts should be on the lower-right edge as you insert the battery into the phone, as illustrated in the figure.

When the battery is fully inserted, it kind of snaps into place. The back of the battery is flush with the back of the phone; the battery doesn't stick up, not one itty bit.

7. Replace the phone's back cover.

Position the cover over the phone. Gently push the bottom, sides, and then top of the cover down into place until it snaps.



Figure 1-1: Inserting the phone's battery.

Now that you've installed the battery you need to charge the phone. Continue reading in the next section.

Charging the battery

After inserting the battery into your new phone, the next step is to charge it. It's cinchy:

- 1. Plug the phone's charger cord into the charging adapter and then plug the charging adapter into a wall socket.**
- 2. Plug the phone into the charger cord.**

The charger cord plugs into the micro-USB connector, found on the phone's left side just above the HDMI connector. The connector plugs in only one way.

As the phone charges, the Home screen says, “Charging,” and the charging percentage appears directly below the current time and date. When the Charging indicator reads 100%, the phone is fully charged.



- ✓ The phone’s notification light changes color as the phone charges. When the light is green, the phone is fully charged.
- ✓ Wait until the notification light turns green before unplugging the phone from its power cable, especially the first time you charge the phone.
- ✓ You can use the phone while it’s charging, though you’re not going very far with it.
- ✓ The Atrix 4G can use any standard cell phone charger. The charger must have a micro-USB connector to be able to plug into the phone.
- ✓ You can charge the Atrix 4G in your car, using what was once called a “cigarette lighter.” Simply ensure that you buy a car cell phone charger that features a micro-USB connector.
- ✓ The phone also charges itself when it’s plugged into a computer using either the USB cable that comes with the phone or any micro-USB cable attached to a computer. The computer must be on for charging to work.
- ✓ A *micro-USB* connector has a flat, trapezoid shape, which makes it different from the *mini-USB connector*, which is squat and slightly larger and used primarily on evil cell phones.

Atrix 4G Orientation

Phone orientation was once a simple thing. There was the phone, its dial, and then usually a handset that you held up to your head. The dial turned only one way. The handset could be used backwards, where you swap the ear and mouth parts, but that made it difficult to converse. Yeah, figuring out the old telephone was a simple thing. Not so with the Motorola Atrix 4G, which is why you should feel compelled to read this section.

Knowing what’s what on your phone

Like all other confusing things, the Atrix 4G attempts to intimidate you with some new terms for its features, not to mention that you may not be aware of all the available hardware features. Fret not, gentle reader.

Figure 1-2 illustrates the names of all the useful knobs and doodads on the front of your phone. Figure 1-3 illustrates the same thing, but for your phone's backside.



Figure 1-2: Your phone's face.

The terms referenced in both Figures 1-2 and 1-3 are the same as the ones used elsewhere in this book, as well as in whatever scant Atrix 4G documentation exists.

- ✓ The phone's power button — which turns the phone off or on, puts the phone to sleep or wakes it up, and is also a fingerprint sensor — is found on the top rear of the phone, as shown in Figures 1-2 and 1-3.
- ✓ The main part of the phone is the *touchscreen display*. You use the touchscreen with one or more of your fingers to control the phone, which is where it gets the name *touchscreen*.

- ✔ *Soft buttons* appear below the touchscreen (refer to Figure 1-2): Menu, Home, Back, and Search. They have no function unless the phone is turned on.
- ✔ Yes, the main microphone is on the bottom of the phone. Even so, it still picks up your voice, loud and clear. You don't need to hold the phone at an angle for the bottom microphone to work.
- ✔ The rear speaker is designed for video and other audio playback.
- ✔ You adjust the phone's volume by using the Volume button on the phone's right side (refer to Figure 1-2).
- ✔ The Volume button also serves a zoom function when using the Atrix 4G as a camera. See Chapter 15 for details.
- ✔ Yes, the Atrix 4G lacks a physical keyboard. Instead, an onscreen keyboard is used, which is covered in Chapter 4.



Figure 1-3: Your phone's rump.

Listening with earphones

The Atrix 4G may not have come with earphones or any form of headset in the box. That's not a reason to give up on the concept. In fact, the nice people who sold you the Atrix 4G might have tossed in a set of earbud-style earphones for you to use. If not, well then, they weren't that nice, were they?

You're probably familiar with the earbud type of earphone: The buds are set into your ears. The sharp, pointy end of the earphones — what you don't want to stick into your ear — goes into the top of the phone.

Between the earbuds and the sharp, pointy thing is often found a control noodle on which there is a button. You can use the button to mute the phone or to start or stop the playback of music when the Atrix 4G is in its music-playing mode.

You can use the control noodle also to answer the phone when it rings.

Usually, a teensy hole on the back side of the noodle serves as the phone's microphone. The hole allows you to use the earphones as a hands-free headset with the Atrix 4G.

- ✓ You can purchase any cell phone headset for use with the Atrix 4G. Any standard earphones work, though some headsets may feature noodle buttons that may not work on the Atrix 4G.
- ✓ The earbuds are labeled R for right and L for left.
- ✓ You don't use the earphone's noodle to set the phone's volume, either during a call or while you're listening to music. Instead, the phone's volume is set by using the Volume button found on the side of the phone, as illustrated in Figures 1-2 and 1-3.
- ✓ See Chapter 17 for more information on using your Atrix 4G as a portable music player.
- ✓ Be sure to fully insert the earphone connector into the phone. The person you're talking with cannot hear you well when the earphones are plugged in only part of the way.
- ✓ You can also use a Bluetooth headset with your phone, to listen to a call or, if compatible, music. See Chapter 13 for more information on Bluetooth attachments for the Atrix 4G.
- ✓ When you don't need the earphones, it's best to fold the wires, as opposed to wrapping them up in a loop: Put the earbuds and connector in one hand and then pull the wire out straight with the other hand. Fold the wire in half, and then in half again. You can then put the earphones in your pocket or on a tabletop. By folding the wires, you avoid creating a wire-ball-of-Christmas-tree-lights.



Exploring your phone's guts

Occasionally, you may need to examine the intricacies of your phone's innards. Unlike some cell phones, the Atrix 4G is designed to have easily replaceable items that you can access without having to sneak around behind the manufacturer's back, pry open the phone, and alert the warranty police.

Specifically, you need to open your phone for three reasons:

- ✓ To install or replace the battery
- ✓ To add or replace the SIM card
- ✓ To add or remove a microSD memory card

When you need to access those items, you can obey these steps:

1. Turn off your phone.

See the “Turning off the phone” section, in Chapter 2, for more information.

2. Flip the phone over.

3. Insert a plastic card or your thumbnail into the seam at the top or bottom of the phone. Snap the back cover away from the phone.

4. Set aside the back cover.

Use Figure 1-4 to identify the phone's battery and the microSD memory card.

5. Remove the battery by inserting a plastic card or your thumbnail into the opening near the bottom right of the battery and lifting up (refer to Figure 1-4).

6. To change with the microSD card:

- *To insert a microSD card:* Lift the microSD cover and insert the card into the slot and slide down towards the SIM card until it is all the way in (refer to Figure 1-4). The notch on the microSD card fits only one way.
- *To remove a microSD card:* Lift the microSD cover and slide the card upward, away from the SIM card. Pull the card all the way out until it's free.

When you're done rummaging around inside your phone, you close things up.

7. Return the back cover to the phone; the cover fits only one way.

8. Push the cover down until it snaps fully into position.

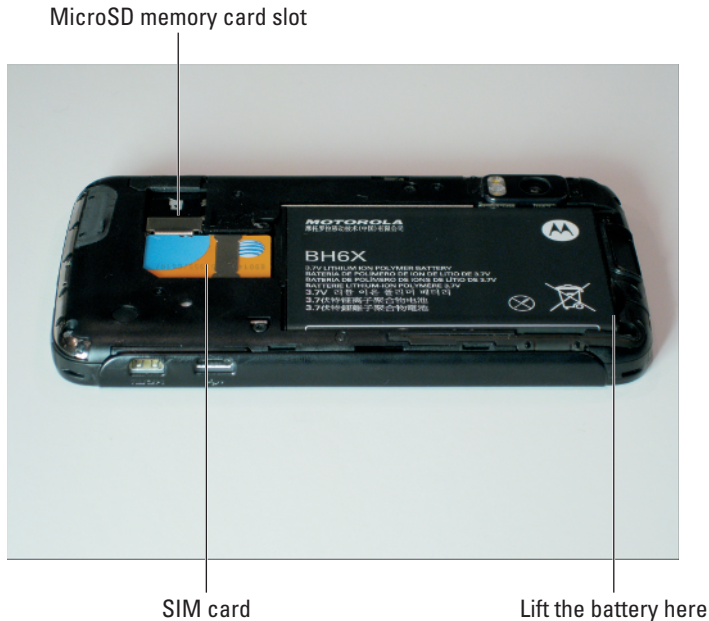


Figure 1-4: Atrix 4G's guts.

You can turn on the phone again after the cover is locked into place. See Chapter 2 for information on turning on your phone.



- ✓ Do not remove a microSD card from the Atrix 4G unless you have first unmounted it. Refer to Chapter 13 for information on how to unmount a microSD card.
- ✓ See Chapter 22 for more information on the Atrix 4G battery.
- ✓ The Atrix 4G uses a *SIM card* to access the cellular network. The SIM, which stands for Subscriber Identity Module, identifies the phone and does other things you need not care about.

Using phone accessories

In addition to the included HDMI cable, the Atrix 4G has various optional accessories available to enhance your entertainment, productivity, and mobile experiences. These accessories are the standard dock, laptop dock, HD multimedia dock, and vehicle dock.

HDMI cable

The HDMI cable is the one accessory in this section that comes with your phone; luckily, unlike many freebies, it's something you'll be happy to have. With the cable connected to your HDMI-supported HDTV or computer monitor, you can experience the music, videos, and photos stored on your phone, SD card, or USB storage device on a big screen.

After connecting the HDMI cable, you'll be presented with the Entertainment center option. After selecting Entertainment Center, your phone's touch-screen turns into a virtual remote control, as shown in Figure 1-5.



Figure 1-5: The virtual remote control for the Entertainment center.

You can use the navigation ring to move between and within the Music, Pictures, Videos, and Settings options. Pressing the navigation key is the equivalent of pressing OK or Enter on a standard remote.

- ✔ Monitors that have only DVI or VGA connections can be used with optional HDMI-DVI or HDMI-VGA adaptors.
- ✔ Pictures and videos transferred via HDMI must be created on your phone; content not created on the phone itself is not supported.
- ✔ Viewing slideshows and managing pictures and videos with the Atrix 4G are covered in Chapter 16.
- ✔ Chapter 17 covers playing music on the Atrix 4G.

Standard dock

In a nutshell, the standard dock is simply a base into which you can set the phone. The dock features a USB connection so that the phone can recharge inside the docking station using the included rapid wall charger. The standard dock also provides a speaker jack to direct the phone's audio output to external speakers.

When the Atrix 4G is set inside the standard dock, it runs a special clock application, called the *widget clock*, which displays the current time and provides access to the phone's weather, music, slideshow, and alarm clock features.

The standard dock makes a great home for the phone (see the section “A Home for Your Phone”), and it can be used as a bedside alarm or as a music machine when connected to a stereo system.

- ✔ The standard dock, like the other accessories in this section, can be purchased at the same place where you obtained your Atrix 4G or at any location where cell phone goodies are sold.
- ✔ With the standard dock, you get the handsome, high-tech-looking base, a USB cable, plus a power adapter.
- ✔ See Chapter 18 for more information about using your state-of-the-art cell phone as a digital clock.

Laptop dock

The laptop dock is your opportunity to turn your tiny smartphone into a full-size laptop, complete with a physical keyboard, a large screen, a pair of stereo speakers, and a computer-like operating system. The slender laptop dock itself is just a keyboard, touchpad, screen, battery, and ports — your phone remains the brains of the operation.

The laptop has a rear cradle that flips up for your phone to slide into, as shown in Figure 1-6. You will then have a choice of using your phone in widget clock mode like the standard or HD multimedia docks, or opening the dock's lid and letting your phone boot into Motorola webtop mode.



Figure 1-6: The Atrix 4G plugged into the laptop dock.

With webtop loaded, you can use the dock's touchpad to move the cursor and use the keyboard to enter text, just like on a regular computer. If you find the touchpad difficult to use, you can plug a regular mouse into one of the dock's USB ports.

Your phone's screen is replicated as a same-sized window on the dock's display. You can then flip the phone's window horizontally or vertically with the click of a software button, or even blow it up to nearly the full screen. Buttons can be virtually pressed using the touchpad's mouse cursor in place of the gestures you would normally use on the phone.

- ✔ You'll find some differences between the way the software works on Motorola's webtop application versus on your phone. For instance, the Web browser in webtop mode is Firefox, which is more feature-rich than the Web browser that runs on your phone.
- ✔ If you make or receive a call while the Atrix 4G is in the dock, your phone automatically goes into speakerphone mode and it appears on your screen. You can continue working on other things while you're talking.

- ✓ With the laptop dock, you get a power charger, power charger carry case, and *Quickstart* guide.
- ✓ The phone will start to charge when you attach it to the dock even if your dock is not plugged into a wall outlet.
- ✓ Your phone will not use its own battery power until the dock's battery is fully depleted.
- ✓ You can plug and unplug your phone from the lapdock at any time and the Atrix 4G will seamlessly switch between modes.
- ✓ As with some of the other items associated with the Atrix 4G, you'll sometimes see the laptop dock referred to by a different name; in this case, *lapdock*.
- ✓ The dock remembers what mode it was in the last time your phone was in it.
- ✓ When you've finished power computing, simply close the dock's lid and remove your phone.

HD multimedia dock

With features similar to the laptop dock, HDMI cable, and standard dock all rolled into one, you might think that the HD multimedia dock has something of an identity crisis. Don't worry, though; it's not schizophrenia, just versatility. This versatility extends to the HD multimedia dock's ports, which consist of a standard HDMI display connection, three USB ports, and speaker output. The dock has its own dedicated wall charger, which plugs into the remaining port.

When the Atrix 4G is inserted into the HD multimedia dock, you have a choice from the apps picker screen of launching the Motorola webtop, Entertainment center, or widget clock, as shown in Figure 1-7. When the Motorola webtop is selected, the phone's touchscreen works as a touchpad mouse, complete with left and right mouse buttons. Besides being able to control the mouse cursor on the Motorola webtop desktop, the phone's touchscreen can also work as a virtual keyboard by tapping the keyboard icon next to the right mouse button. The HD multimedia dock's USB ports support a standard mouse and keyboard, so you can make your Atrix 4G even more like a desktop computer.

- ✓ The USB ports also support the direct connection of a printer.
- ✓ With the HD multimedia dock, you may get an infrared remote control that duplicates the functions of the Entertainment center touchscreen (refer to Figure 1-5) and all of the phone's soft buttons, save for Search.
- ✓ Like the other docks, the HD multimedia dock remembers what mode it was in the last time your phone was in it.

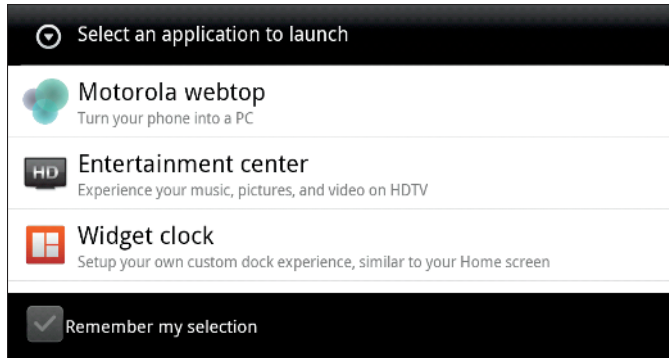


Figure 1-7: The apps picker screen.

Vehicle dock

There's no rule saying you have to use the vehicle dock inside a car. The dock has a cradle for the Atrix 4G on one end and, when properly assembled, a suction cup on the other. You could probably stick the dock to any flat surface, but it's a *vehicle dock*, so it's safe to assume that it will suck to the windshield or dashboard of your favorite auto.

When you stick the Atrix 4G into the vehicle dock, the phone automatically switches to the Car Home screen, shown in Figure 1-8. You can read more about this screen in Chapter 3, which is your basic Atrix 4G orientation chapter.

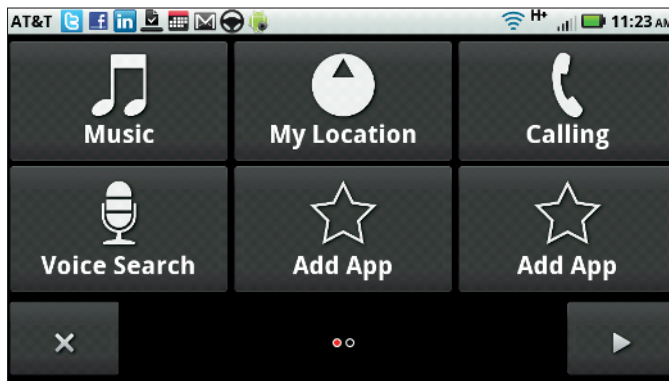


Figure 1-8: The Car Home screen.

A car charger comes with the vehicle dock. The charger is one of those gizmos that plugs into what was once called a cigarette lighter. The other end of the car charger plugs into your Atrix 4G, which can be nestled in the vehicle dock or just rattling loose inside your vehicle.



- ✓ Yes, you can use the car charger without having to use the vehicle dock.
- ✓ Gizmos such as the car charger are also available separately. Ensure that you get one that features a micro-USB connector.
- ✓ For the suction cup on the vehicle dock to work properly, use a hard, smooth surface. An adhesive plastic disk comes with the vehicle dock. Use it to make sure that the suction cup has something solid to suck on.

A Home for Your Phone

Ages ago, before the cordless phone era, the telephone was anchored to a certain part of the house. In fact, if your home is old enough, it may even feature a phone nook, which was a tiny hole in a wall in which the telephone could always be found. Oh, those were the days.

Cell phones are designed to go everywhere, but even so you'll probably want to keep your Atrix 4G in the same spots to be able to find it again. That recommendation applies both to carrying the phone around, as well as those moments when you're home and wish that your house had a phone nook.

Carrying the Atrix 4G

The Atrix 4G isn't the smallest cell phone, but it can still fit into a pocket or even the teensiest of party purses. It's designed for travel, so you can carry your phone in your pocket or purse without fear that something will accidentally turn it on, dial East Prussia, and run up a heck of a cell phone bill.

Because the Atrix 4G features a proximity sensor, you can even keep the phone in your pocket while you're on a call or listening to music on headphones. The proximity sensor disables the touchscreen, which ensures that nothing accidentally is touched when you don't want it to be touched.

- ✓ Although it's okay to put the phone somewhere when you're making a call, be careful not to touch the phone's power button (refer to Figure 1-3). Doing so may temporarily enable the touchscreen, which can hang up a call, mute the phone, or do any of a number of undesirable things.



- ✓ If you're not actively using your phone, it's a good idea to put it into sleep mode by briefly pressing the power button. This causes the screen to go black and disables all input until you briefly press the power button again to wake up the phone.
- ✓ You can always store the Atrix 4G in one of a variety of handsome carrying case accessories, some of which come in fine Naugahyde or leatherette.
- ✓ Don't forget that the phone is in your pocket, especially when that pocket is in your coat or jacket. You might accidentally sit on the phone, or it can fly out when you take off your coat. The worst fate for the Atrix 4G, or any cell phone, is to take a trip through the wash. We're sure the phone has nightmares about that happening.

Storing the Atrix 4G

You need to find a place for your phone when you're not taking it with you. Make it a consistent spot: on top of your desk or workstation, in the kitchen, on the nightstand — you get the idea. Phones are as prone to being lost as your car keys and glasses, so consistency is the answer to keeping and finding your phone in one spot.

Then again, your phone does ring, so when you lose it, you can always have someone else call your number to help you locate the phone.

- ✓ A great place to keep the Atrix 4G is on your desk, next to your computer. Conveniently, the charger cord plugs into the computer, so you can keep the phone plugged in, connected, and charging when you're not using it.
- ✓ Because the Atrix 4G makes a great alarm clock, you may want to place it next to your bed at night, preferably plugged into its charger or one of the docks.
- ✓ Phones on coffee tables get buried under magazines and are often squished when rude people put their feet on the furniture.
- ✓ Avoid putting the Atrix 4G in direct sunlight; heat is a bad thing for any electronic gizmo.
- ✓ Do not put your phone through the laundry (see the preceding section). See Chapter 22 for information on properly cleaning the phone.

